

# Wheel to Wheel

## Newsletter for the HUB



<http://www.facebook.com/hubclubdrivingclub>

<http://www.hubclubdriving.com>

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**The HUB Club:**  
**Education &**  
**Camraderie**



HUB CLUB

**From the Editor** As your editor, I ask that you send me photos and anything else that you would like to see in the newsletter. I am more than happy to use anything you want in the newsletter, as it is **YOUR newsletter**. If you want to continue to have an informative newsletter, I need material from the membership. You can send them to me directly at [briarpatcheast@aol.com](mailto:briarpatcheast@aol.com) by the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month. Kris Breyer

**From the Webmaster:** Please submit items for web page. Include pictures of all our members. Please send names of driver, passengers, horse(s), and description of what you are doing, and where.



**PREZ Message:** It is with great fondness that I must inform you that with this December newsletter, Kris has performed her last duty as Hub Club newsletter editor. I joined the club in 2008 and during all this time she has served in this role, but I know she has volunteered her time and talent to entertain, educate, and

inform drivers for many years before this. Please let Kris know how much you have appreciated her efforts each month by sending her a kind email as well as thanking her personally at the next Hub Club event.

Yours Truly, **Dr Lydia Gray**





# 120 Year Old Waterloo Company Makes 'One Horse Wonders'

By PAT BLANK • NOV 26, 2018



*Erik and Shelli Lee purchased the Jerald Sulky Company in 2015. It's the last commercial manufacturer of performance drawn vehicles in the world.*

COURTESY: BRANDON  
POLLOCK/WATERLOO COURIER

A Wisconsin couple with a passion for horses is keeping alive a one-of-its-kind operation in Waterloo: The Jerald Sulky Company -- world famous for its products in the show ring and on the race track.

A group of ten highly-specialized workers is putting the finishing touches on a busy season. They're

handcrafting something that resembles a one horse sleigh, called a sulky.

"The word sulky comes from the word to sulk as in to be alone, so this is a single seat vehicle, imagine a horse and your sitting in cart behind it," said company owner Erik Lee, while giving a brief tour.

Lee and his wife Shelli bought the company in 2015, and didn't purchase the business in a traditional manner.



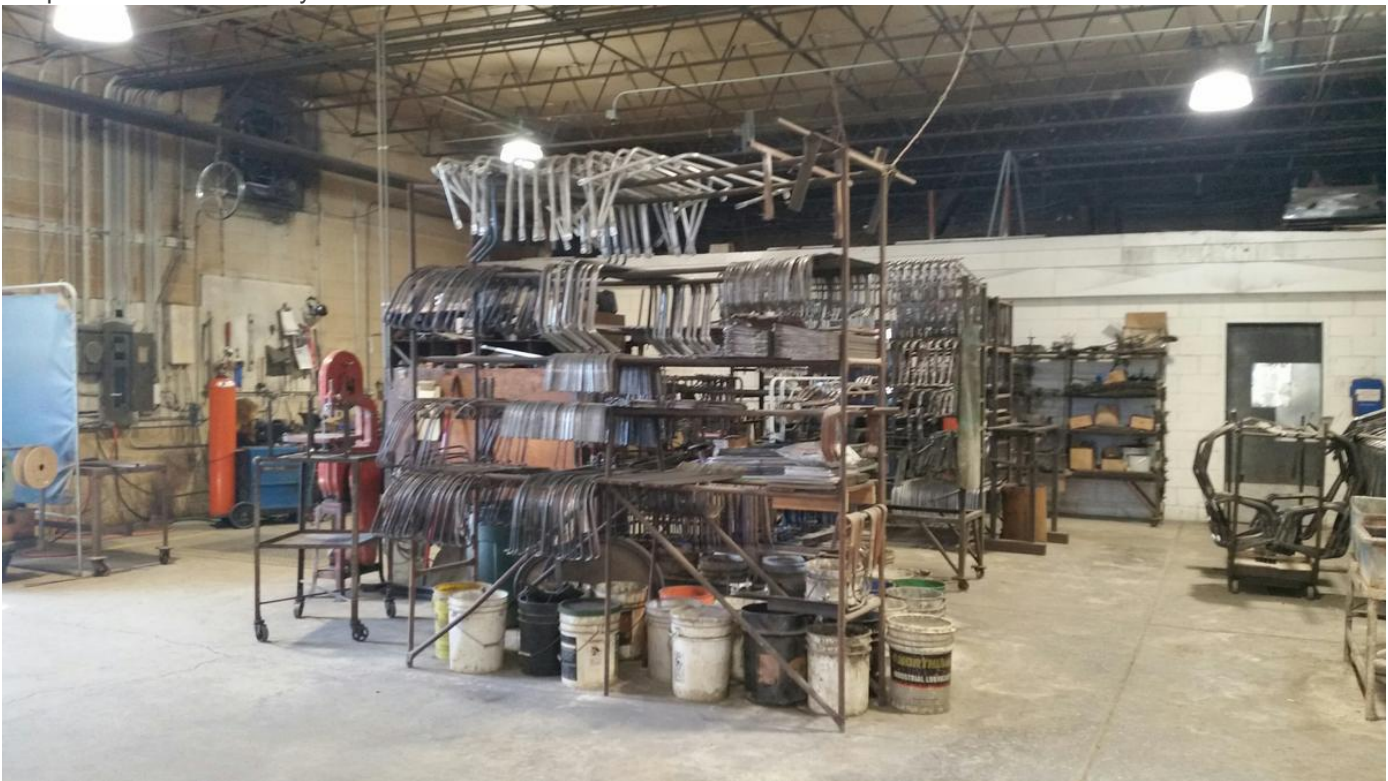
"I called down here to buy a cart and the company had been furloughed, so true story is, instead of buying a cart, I bought the company," he said. "Three years later I still haven't made my own cart but I'm working on it, one of these days I will."

*Equipment dealer Terry Bennett's display of Jerald Sulky tack.*  
CREDIT HOWARD SCHATZBERG

Thanks to the Lees, the Jerald Sulky Company is celebrating its 120th year. It's the last commercial manufacturer of horse drawn

vehicles in the world. Customers from all across the country who race and show horses are thrilled that it's still in business. Terry Bennett is an equipment dealer who makes the five hour trek from Missouri to Waterloo twice a year. He describes what he picked up during his most recent trip, ahead of the Morgan Grand National Horse Show in Oklahoma City. "Three jog carts for training, two two-wheeled carts for show and one four-wheeled show cart which is called a fine harness buggy," he said. "It's just the nicest on the market."

But of course, not all customers have the luxury of picking up their merchandise in person, especially international customers. "We ship horse drawn vehicles all over the world, best markets are domestic," said Lee. "Exports are a little tough right now with the value of the dollar, favorites after that are Australia, South Africa, the European Union and then everywhere comes in last behind that." Hand-crafted custom sulkies range in price from \$1500 to \$15,000, depending on what options are ordered. Lee says his staff has a combined 200 years of experience "We have to sew the seat cushions, we have to lace and tune the wire spoke wheels, we have to bend and shape the lumber that goes into these vehicles, we have to make all the axel components," Lee points out. "Eighty percent of the components are either manufactured or significantly transformed inside the plant another ten percent is made in the Cedar Valley or the other ten percent is made everywhere else."



*Some of the hardware components used in the company's carts.*  
CREDIT PAT BLANK/IPR

Lee describes the company as the Rolls Royce of the horse business, but custom seats, shiny spoke wheels and shimmering woodgrain aside, the reputation of the design rests on one simple principle.

"I can put a 30 pound child in this cart and I can put a 400 pound man in this cart and at the point where it meets the horse it will always, balance," he said. Erik and Shelli Lee and their employees will be taking some time off for the holidays but are eager to begin year 121 for the Jerald Sulky Company.



## *Editor's Notes:* It was conveyed to

me that at the November meeting, members said they don't read the newsletter anyway, and that the occasional newsletter would be produced by someone else. Also that club information would be posted instead on the club website..... How many of you read that???

I asked for treasurer input, clinic roundtable information, minutes, January meeting and even show results.....NADA has been received after several queries.....

So, I guess this may be the last newsletter from me after around 17 years or so..... unless interest is found.

*Kris Breyer*



## *Hickory Knoll: sanding the ark*

After 130 inches of rain in the last two years, Hickory Knoll remains sodden, but work is under way.

We had to cancel the CDE the last two years, giving up hosting the North American Preliminary Championship as well, due to literally feet of water on the farm. Climate change, which is supposed to increase Midwestern rain by 15%, has increased it here by almost 300%. We can assume some regression to the changing norm in the future, but to plan an event the size of HKCDE, we need a new infrastructure. Here is what we are doing.

We have put in an east drainage way to carry water south from the east end of the polo field to the south ditches along Highway M. That has been sculpted and seeded for much of its length. We have a rough drainage ditch set up from the guest barn to drain to the southwest with a new culvert under the rebuilt driveway. The soil was so saturated that the drive surface collapsed. Dale Huston donated around 500 cubic yards of soil and we are raising the trailer parking area by about sixteen inches and sloping it to the west and east. We hope to haul in more soil once the ground freezes and tings are rather soft.

We may be putting in a pond as well as several catch basins as well to manage water.

We recently discovered that the former drainage for Lake Barney, which was once a quarter mile away and is now across the street from us, was destroyed. The lake level came up eight feet and that is why the soil is so saturated. We have formed a landowners' group to take whatever legal action is required to lower the lake level. Our neighbor across the street now has to have a four-foot dike around his house to continue to live there and another has to abandon his basement due to the high water.

So we have had a combination of record rain plus government incompetence to deal with. If all goes well, we will hope to have a spring clinic and a fall HDT. *John Freiburger*



# Wrap yourself in a carriage robe exhibit.

BY [AVERY YALE AMILA](#)

Imagine riding in an open sleigh when the mercury is hovering below freezing. In 19th-century Maine, this wasn't a hypothetical concept, but a winter reality. People got around by using sleighs and carriages, and when winter hit and travel couldn't be avoided, they made do by piling blankets on their laps.

*Photos courtesy Sanford-Springvale Historical Society Museum*

The Sanford-Springvale Historical Society Museum exhibit features 20 locally produced carriage robes dating from the late 19th and early 20th centuries "After 1900, automobiles began to be slowly manufactured, but it didn't cut too sharply into robe sales because the automobiles didn't have any heat," said Harland Eastman, director of the Sanford-Springvale Historical Society. "People had to have carriage robes in that day; whether you were in a carriage, a sleigh or a closed carriage, it was freezing cold."

Most people no doubt used whatever blankets they had available in the house. But for those who could afford something finer, a mohair plush carriage robe was the way to go. Until the 1880s, these blankets, created from the wool of Angora goats, could only be purchased from manufacturers in England and Germany, who closely guarded their manufacturing techniques. But in 1883, the Sanford Mills, owned by the Goodall family,



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began selling their own mohair plush blankets with colorful stencil decorations on the front. They come from a 74-piece collection that the museum acquired from Paul Lehoux of Cornish, who has been collecting carriage robes for years. Each robe measures roughly 5-feet-square, and features animal motifs such as horses, dogs and deer. “There’s no way of knowing the age of any particular robe; they were never dated,” Eastman said. “Some had designs that were used year after year because they were popular.” Eastman said that although a few have holes or areas of wear, most are in excellent condition. “They were very, very well made, so their durability accounts for them being in such good condition after a century,” he said. Today, the old Sanford Mills complex remains mostly empty. But at its height, the mill employed 5,000 people, and the mohair plush fabric was a popular choice for furniture and drapes. At one point, all Pullman train cars featured mohair plush upholstery from the Sanford Mills. And for those who could afford them, a mohair plush carriage robe was the ultimate in luxury on a cold winter’s night.

The arrival of Thomas Goodall in Sanford, Maine, in 1867 would alter the town. The only factory in Sanford village the year he arrived was a small felt mill on Washington Street. He bought the felt mill and its water power, the sawmill and dam just above it and the gristmill and dam a short distance below. He was soon producing woolen cloth, blankets and horse blankets as he had done in Troy, New Hampshire, before coming to Sanford. His three sons soon joined him and one of his sons, George, figured out how to manufacture cloth from the wool of the Angora goat.



Called mohair plush, its production commenced in 1883 and changed the face of Sanford. The population of the town that year was only 2,700. By 1910 it had grown to 9,000, thanks mostly to mohair plush. 3,000 of Sanford's citizens by then were employed in the Goodall Mills.

Mohair plush was ideal material for the manufacture of carriage robes. Within a decade Goodall Mills offered them in 450 different designs. After the advent of the automobile, carriage robes, now called lap robes, continued to be needed in vehicles because early automobiles lacked heat. Many American automobile manufacturers upholstered their cars in Sanford's mohair plush. For decades all Pullman railroad cars in America were upholstered in mohair plush from Sanford Mills.

# Chase & Company's Victorian Carriage Robe

June 24, 2014

“A plush robe in every buggy” – Thomas Goodall



A recent donation to the Lynchburg Museum has inspired thoughts of horse-drawn sleighs, buggies, and carriages.

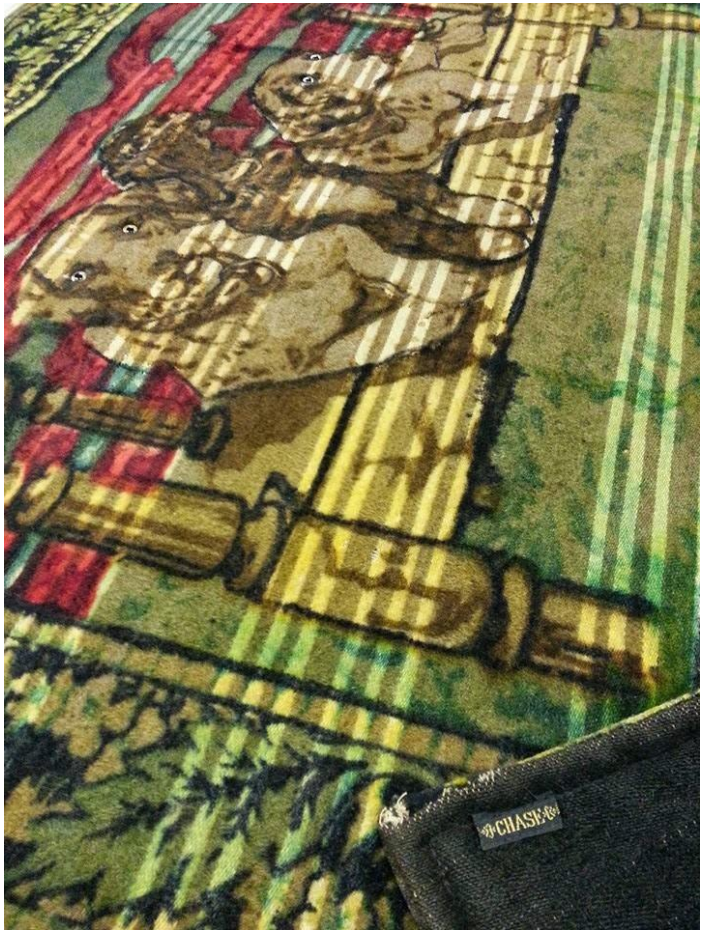
These Victorian-era modes of transportation are often romanticized during the winter season but imagine what it must have been like, trying to keep warm in a Model T, fording creeks and mud during the cold months. A family would have needed several layers of warm blankets.

A Chase & Company brand carriage robe (also called a “lap robe”) was donated to the Lynchburg Museum by Robert & Agnes Trent of Lynchburg. Mrs. Trent remembers taking a Model-T from Greenville to Midway, North Carolina with her parents, on a route that did involve crossing a creek. The ride was neither smooth nor temperature controlled and there is a very good chance they would have been bundled up under heavy blankets if the weather was chilly. The Chase robe would have been a luxurious but utilitarian accessory. The blankets were manufactured by Sanford Mills, in Sanford, Maine by Thomas Goodall. They are characterized by plush mohair (angora), bright colors of the Chase brand, and ornamental borders stenciled on the front of the blanket rather than woven into it. The standard size is 48” by 60.”

The Museum’s carriage robe is of three attentive dogs on a small bed, two of which still have their trademark glass eyes. The robe is in remarkable condition and the ornate stenciled green borders are still sharp and bright. Under all of the dyed decorative images, the woven pattern is brown and beige mohair and rather plain. The Trents displayed the carriage robe on their wall as one would a tapestry or a quilt, and it is grand enough to be a work of art.

The robe was originally thought to be from the mid-1920s, but, according to Harland Eastman, President of the Sanford-Springvale Historical Society in Sanford, Maine, the animal motif dates the carriage robe to as early as the 1880s. The Historical Society has the largest collection of Chase carriage robes and Eastman has said he has yet to see the same design twice, though many were sold.



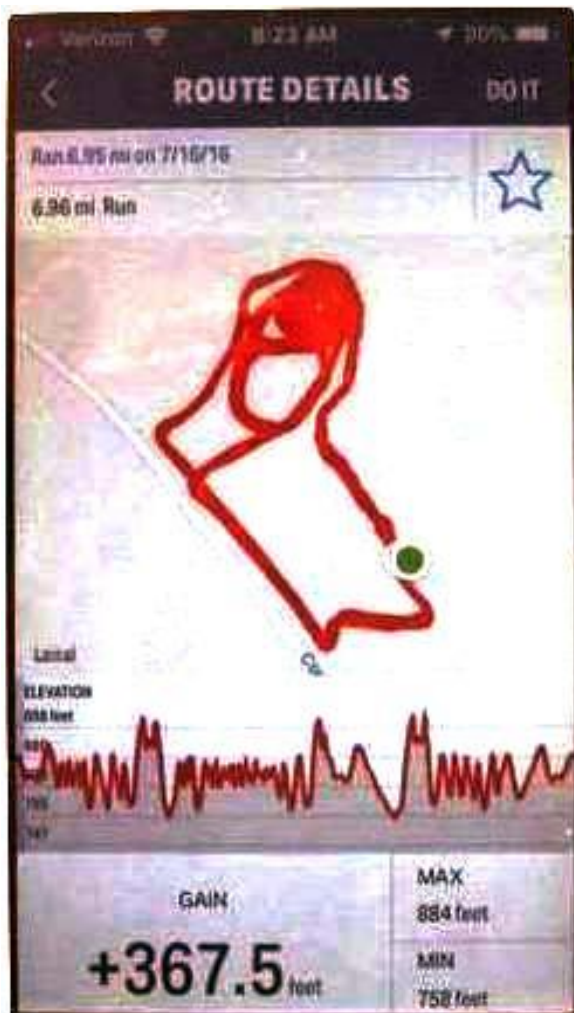




## Driving Tip: Using Tracking Apps for Training or Fun

MapMy Apps (Run, Ride, Walk, Hike) are free and simple apps that you can download on any Smartphone (Android or iPhone). In terms of functionality, there is no difference between the MapMy apps. The main difference between the free apps and sites is that each is catered toward an individual audience and will provide nearby and recommended maps based on that app's user base. For instance, using MapMyRun will provide nearby running routes others have recorded, while MapMyRide will provide nearby routes for cyclists. They might as well have MayMy drive. Whether you download run or hike both will track your driving route. You will be able to record any type of drive using any of the apps. The app tracks your route via GPS, and records your distance, duration, and pace. You are able to pause the workout and resume. After you have finished your drive, you will see total time, distance, splits for each mile, and average pace. You are able to save the routes. The lady in the phone tells you your split time at each mile. You have the option to silence the virtual coach. Above is a screen shot of a drive at Donald Park in Mt Vernon WI. The red line shows where we drove. If you move the gray vertical line in the elevation bar it will pinpoint the spot on the above route. The bottom bar records the total time and average minute per mile. The screen can expand (which I did for a better picture), hiding the bar above the map displaying total distance (8.51 miles). After you hit Finish your split times for each mile will display. I found it fun and useful knowing how far I can drive on my property which does not have miles and miles of trails. You can see below that we covered many miles driving many loops, close to 7 miles. I also noticed that our somewhat outdoor arena field (dense red) is up and down. My excuse why our 40m circles are not perfected. The green dot is the start and behind that green dot is a red dot where we finished. I have used the app under saddle and hiking. It's entertaining to see the terrain and distance traveled. Try it.

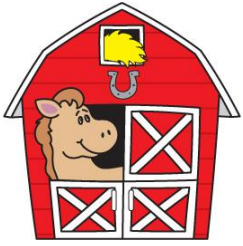
HOME ROUTE



DONALD PARK, MT VERNON, WI







# Sales Barn

## KEMAH'S ANIMAL CARE SERVICE

Specializing in horse care, but also experienced in the care of dogs, cats, birds, as well as many farm animals. Services including, but not limited to, cleaning, feeding, exercising, grooming, administering meds if needed. Short term to permanent care available. Over fifteen years experience. Great references. Reasonable rates. Call Kemah: 815-451-3967.



**Show  
Gig for  
Sale**

Built by Todd Frey of Frey Carriage, Columbus, Wisconsin. Gig is about 15 years old, lightly used. I have used it at a few shows and it is very well balanced and smooth riding. It has a beautiful dark green paint finish. It has new shaft covers and includes a full canvas cover. It is in very good condition. **\$3,800** Contact Sandra Nowicki, 262-889-4802 or [sannowicki@aol.com](mailto:sannowicki@aol.com)

**FOR SALE:** Neat oak hunting cart made in Pennsylvania; maroon seats for 4 humans with room for dogs below. Needs a better home than I can provide. Driven with 14 h 2 pony. In need of a little TLC \$3,500 negotiable. Call Nancy Baker 608-329-6711 or [nakabak7@gmail.com](mailto:nakabak7@gmail.com)



Country Carriages Road Cart for sale. Includes custom fabric cover for storage, Cart stand, cart jack, rain seat and rain seat back cover. Used with 15hh horse. 49.5" diameter wheels, 76" shafts. Show ready! Asking \$2000 Contact Cathy Thomas 608/332-8361, [cathytho@gmail.com](mailto:cathytho@gmail.com). Located in Verona, WI.



## ***For sale:***

We bought this vehicle new and used it much less than anticipated—maybe 10 outings. It has a pole and shafts. I'm not sure of the weight but have driven it single with the off horse, a Belgian thoroughbred cross. The brake is in the center of the floor so it can be driven easily from either traditional or traffic position and it rolls quite freely. It's well sprung and rides quite comfortably over uneven ground as well as roads. Pictures don't show the color well—the frame and gear are all a beautiful shade of bottle or hunter green and the woodwork is light varnished wood. Its been used for a wedding supper, an HDT, a couple of Pleasure Driving classes and three club pleasure drives. I am asking \$2,600. Call me at 630-363-4619 with any questions. Grace Frejlach-Grubb



## ***For sale:***

The gig is most suitable for a cob size horse/pony, however the horse shown in the picture is a 16.3 field hunter. It's royal blue with gold pinstripes and has natural oak wheels and shafts. The interior is black velvet and as comfortable as any loveseat. It has been used at Villa Louis, Iron Horse CDE as well as many pleasure drives and the Sharon WI lighted Christmas parade. I'm selling it for \$1800.

Call me at 630-363-4619 with any questions. Grace Frejlach-Grubb



## ***For sale:***

I have a Sierakowski horse marathon for sale or trade for a pony marathon of equal quality/features. Located in McHenry, IL. Looking to trade my horse Sierakowski marathon for a lighter medium/large pony size. The Sierakowski is 185kg without shafts/pole. Has 5th wheel, front and rear brakes. Comes with pair of shafts, team pole adaptor and extra set of wheels. (Hard and pneumatic.) I am the second owner. Bought from gentleman who had it imported. Stored inside, no wrecks. Some flaked paint/rust on underside of carriage and on shafts where the shafts rest on the dash. Chrome of dash unharmed.



### **Measurements:**

Telescoping shafts: 64"-82" (might be able to go longer, but I wanted to leave ample room for the bolts to grab)

Height to top of single tree: 26"

Height to top of wedge seat: 67"

Trade for medium pony marathon of equal value or for sale for \$6,500 can deliver within reasonable distance.

Krista Ziec [Kristat40@gmail.com](mailto:Kristat40@gmail.com)

815-342-4819





## IN SEARCH OF:

Three Gaits Therapeutic Riding Facility in Stoughton WI is looking to add a driving horse/pony to their program. For obvious reasons the horse must be quiet and not easily flustered. Ideal candidates might be draft or draft crosses, Haflingers, fjords, or similar. Anyone having a candidate in mind please contact Dena Duncan at [dena@3gates.org](mailto:dena@3gates.org) or call 608-877-9086

**Need** a cart for 34" mini. I am volunteering with a program called Veteran's R&R, a 501(c)(3) charitable organization in Illinois, helping a disable vet learn to drive a mini. I am hoping someone might have a mini cart they would be willing to donate to the program for the 100% charitable tax deduction. The mini is 34 inches tall. We wouldn't turn down a harness either. She has one but her headstall is too tight and the breeching straps are too short.

Emily Berendt [emberendt@gmail.com](mailto:emberendt@gmail.com)

***Needed:*** Driver for lovely Haflinger once a week in Maple Park. Intermediate or better preferred. Will pay. Contact Linda Castle at 630-896-7445.

## FOR SALE: Frey Sprint Cart

Horse size. Wedge seat is adjustable to accommodate a passenger. Comes with an extra set of metal shafts. Easy to switch out shafts. Tool box mounts under seat. Excellent condition. **Asking \$2500.00.** Contact Denise Marino at 608 588-3168, cell 608 438-5532 or [dmarino@frontier.com](mailto:dmarino@frontier.com)





# Wheel to Wheel

NEWSLETTER EDITOR  
26715 N. Schwerman Road  
Wauconda, IL 60084-2703



## **HUB CLUB** Membership Application Year \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE :( home) \_\_\_\_\_ (work) \_\_\_\_\_ (cell) \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

Also member of: \_\_\_\_ ADS \_\_\_\_ CAA, \_\_\_\_ USEF, Local club \_\_\_\_\_

### MEMBERSHIP DESIGNATIONS:

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP: 18yrs or older, 1 vote per membership

FAMILY MEMBERSHIP: Couple and any underage children (<18), immediate family, 2 votes per membership.

JUNIOR MEMBERSHIP: Child under 18yrs of age, no voting privileges. (Must have an adult member as sponsor).

Also, parent/guardian must sign on application for Junior Members to participate at club events.

I accept the benefits, obligations and responsibilities of membership and agree to abide by the HUB Club bylaws  
Signature(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Date : \_\_\_\_\_

Parent or Guardian (if under 18 years of age)

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP: \$25.00 (Renewing or New)\* \$ \_\_\_\_\_

FAMILY MEMBERSHIP: \$35.00 (Renewing or New)\* \$ \_\_\_\_\_

JUNIOR MEMBERSHIP: \$10.00 (Renewing or New)\* \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\*New memberships received after June 30 will be pro-rated for 6 months

The newsletter is normally distributed via email, as PDF. Do you **REALLY NEED** receive the newsletter via regular mail? Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_ If yes, please include additional \$12.00 to help with print and mailing costs.

Send check payable to HUB Club with completed form to:

Tammy M Carlo  
4761 Bordeaux Drive  
Lake in the Hills, IL 60156

Check # \_\_\_\_\_  
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Date \_\_\_\_\_